
2023 Donor Impact Report

University Hospital is committed to caring for this community, and this year, this community has cared for University Hospital in turn. Your support has allowed UH to fulfill excellence in care, provide essential resources to patients in need, and invest in the future of our community.

At the Foundation for University Hospital, we raise funds to ensure UH can continue to do what it does best: care for this community. Your support, whether a donation of your time, your story, or your money, has made a tremendous impact on this hospital and all we serve. The funds raised over the past year have allowed us to invest in programs that foster equitable health outcomes for our patients including free health screenings and emergency clothing. They have enabled us to improve our emergency response in the community, ultimately saving more lives; and these funds have given UH the ability to respond more quickly to disasters, such as floods and new disease outbreaks, and are helping us address important capital improvements to upgrade our medical equipment.

You have touched over **130,000** lives, including through:

18,748 inpatient admissions
246,545 outpatient clinic visits
96,355 Emergency Department visits
12,546 surgical procedures
1,169 babies delivered
52 Liver transplants

As a safety net hospital with nearly one-fifth of our patients who receive Charity Care, the services we provide may be the only viable option, but we know it is our duty to ensure those services are high quality. You help to advance our mission of providing exceptional care to every patient every time, and for that we are forever grateful. Your support in 2023 moved the needle in three priority program areas: trauma medicine, mobile cancer screening, and our emergency clothing closet.

Trauma Medicine

Caring for Our Neighbors at Their Most Vulnerable

Thanks to your support, we have been able to expand our resources for patients with traumatic injuries. From prevention, to treatment, to recovery, we are devoted to caring for our community with what they need physically, mentally, and emotionally. The Eric Munoz Trauma Center at University Hospital is the busiest trauma center in New Jersey, serving over 3,500 patients each year. Our Level 1 designation is achieved through a rigorous accreditation process by the American College of Surgeons and signifies our capability of providing total care

for every aspect of injury – from prevention through rehabilitation, covering all clinical specialties 24 hours a day.

Our population health and emergency medical services teams work together to address preventable accidents in our community. On many weekends throughout the summer, you will often find these teams hosting “Safety Fairs” to educate on preventable accidents. For example, wearing a helmet while riding a bike or wearing a seatbelt every time you are in a car.

When accidents and trauma cases do happen, they are sudden and unexpected, and in trauma medicine, every minute matters. The most severe and complex injuries and accidents require lightning-fast response times and a coordinated, highly skilled medical team. The "Golden Hour" refers to the crucial first 60 minutes following a traumatic injury when immediate medical attention can mean the difference between life and death. Thanks to funding provided by the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, our team stays up to date on training and technology, so we can provide the quickest and best care possible while also training other teams across the state to do the same. This training also includes educating first responders, who may be first to arrive on the scene of an accident, how to help stabilize injuries while waiting for EMS to arrive.

The road to recovery after a medical trauma is often long and hard both physically and emotionally. Your support has allowed us to offer multiple recovery programs for our patients: Trauma recovery Center, Hospital Based Violence Intervention Program, and Trauma Survivorship.

The **Trauma Recovery Center** (TRC) provides trauma-informed mental health services coordinated by a multi-disciplinary team that includes a psychiatrist, psychologist, and licensed social workers. TRC staff provide compassionate wrap-around care to support the most sensitive clients with medication management, clinical case management, and access to individual and group therapy. TRC has helped over 200 people this year.

University Hospital’s **Hospital Based Violence Intervention Program** (HVIP) provides a comprehensive discharge plan for patients admitted to UH for injuries caused by violence in an effort to strengthen victims’ resilience and prevent re-victimization. Each discharge plan is developed with staff, the patient, and their family. The discharge plan also connects patients and families with other community partners to aid in their long-term recovery outside of the Hospital. These services include culturally appropriate emotional support, crisis intervention, substance use disorder treatment, emergency housing, access to necessary medical care, and the provision of core necessities such as food, seasonally appropriate clothes, and transportation support.

University Hospital’s **Trauma Survivorship** program provides comprehensive care to victims of crime and their loved ones after leaving the Hospital. Severe traumatic injury, crime victimization, and violence are life-changing events that affect patients and their caregivers. The recovery process after emergency medical services is often difficult and involves emotional and physical healing. Patients and their caregivers often are overwhelmed, not only with their own

recovery and related trauma, but also with navigating a complex health care system. Individuals who are or support a victim of violent crime are chronically stressed and their desire to make progress toward rehabilitation requires a caring and experienced team. Collaborating with the Trauma Center's medical team, the Trauma Survivorship program team designs a pathway leading to physical rehabilitation and improved health and wellness overall. As with HVIP, the Trauma Survivorship program connects patients and families to resources they need both in and out of the hospital.

Your support has allowed us to create comprehensive programs to help prevent, treat, and rehabilitate people with traumatic injuries. In June 2023, the State of New Jersey awarded University Hospital the Crime Victims' Rights Award that recognized the excellent care provided by our staff who provide the trauma-informed medical care and survivor-centric healing services provided here.

While we are tremendously proud of the accomplishments this year, we know there is still more we can do. To further the excellence of Emergency Medical Services (EMS), we are committed to raising money to purchase more ambulances for our fleet. With more ambulances on the road, we can improve response times to medical emergencies, saving those crucial minutes during the "golden hour," and ultimately saving more lives. Your support at our Golf Classic and silent auction brought us halfway to purchasing one new ambulance and we look forward to raising the other half together.

Mobile Cancer Screening

A Community Coming Together to Address Cancer Disparities

Thanks to a collective effort of this community, University Hospital's Mobile Breast Cancer Screening Van will hit the streets in Spring of 2024. The Van will work to reduce the mortality rates from breast cancer in Newark and surrounding communities.

Women in our community are dying from breast cancer. Nearly 30 percent of University Hospital's breast cancer cases are diagnosed at an advanced stage when it is hardest to treat, and survival rates are much lower. This is almost double the national average. 3D mammography is the most effective tool for detecting breast cancer in its early stages, yet many women from medically underserved communities do not receive their annual mammogram. The Mobile Breast Cancer Screening Program is designed to eliminate barriers to breast cancer screening. It directly serves women with low to moderate income who, without the program, would not receive screening due to barriers related to poverty, language, transportation costs, and no or poor insurance coverage.

The mobile van, equipped with 3D mammography technology, increases access to breast cancer screenings which will in turn reduce the number of late-stage breast cancer diagnoses. It will simultaneously increase community awareness of the importance of early detection of breast cancer of that a screening can provide.

We are so grateful to be able to provide this life-saving service for our community and could not have done it without our partners: Connie Dwyer Breast Cancer Foundation, Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, The Hyde and Watson Foundation, Epic Systems, and Hologic, Inc. Thank you!

Emergency Clothing Closet

An Essential Resource Funded by You

The Emergency Clothing Closet at University Hospital provides emergency clothes to adults and young adults, preserving their stability, health, and dignity. Last year, thanks to your support, we provided brand new weather appropriate clothing to 3,500 patients.

The Clothing Closet occupies two small spaces within the Hospital and may even appear to be an insignificant service within the Hospital's broad and complex role in Newark. For patients who need emergency clothes, the program's services are not insignificant. They are essential. Some patients' clothing is torn by emergency services and trauma team staff to immediately address severe injuries. Others may be unhoused and arrive in soiled, tattered, and/or inadequate clothing. When new clothes are required and patients are unable to acquire them, they receive clothes from the Emergency Clothing Closet. When discharging a patient, we have a duty to ensure that our patients can walk out our doors safely. In winter months, this means we cannot allow a patient to leave without a winter jacket and other weather appropriate gear.

Our staff, including doctors, nurses, and social services, are deeply grateful that they can give new clothes to their patients thanks to your generosity. Our social workers visit the closet every day to provide clothing for a patient in need and see firsthand how critical this resource is for so many of our patients. By lending your support, you extended a helping hand to a neighbor in need and kept the closet stocked throughout the year.

Everything we accomplish at University Hospital is because of you. We are honored to serve this community and humbled by your support. We look forward to continuing this journey with you and cannot wait to see what we can do together in 2024.

Thank You!